

Vestry to have an estate in all churches, &c.

in fee simple in all churches and chapels, and in all glebes, and other lands, and shall have a good title and estate in all other property heretofore belonging to the church of England, or which shall hereafter belong to the said church, now called the Protestant Episcopal Church, in Maryland; and it shall be lawful for such vestry so to manage and direct all such property as they may think most advantageous to the interests of the parishioners, and they shall also have the property in all books, plate and other ornaments belonging to said churches and chapels, or any of them.

Penalty on the rector for waste, &c.

SEC. 10. *And be it enacted*, That if any rector shall commit any waste on any glebe-land, or other land belonging to the vestry of his parish, or if he shall do any injury to his parsonage, or to his parish library, he shall be liable to pay treble damages, to be recovered of him by the vestry in their corporate name, in the same manner as if he was not one of the vestry.

Churchwardens to be chosen.

SEC. 11. *And be it enacted*, That on every Easter Monday, immediately after the election of vestrymen, the vestry shall proceed to choose from among the persons qualified to vote, two sober, discreet and pious persons, to be churchwardens for the ensuing year, and before they act as such, they shall take and subscribe the oath of fidelity, and make and subscribe the declaration herein before prescribed to be taken by vestrymen, and also an oath, that they will faithfully discharge the duties of a churchwarden.

SEC. 12. Repealed by 1802, ch. 111, sec. 11.

Elections for vestrymen may be held at any time, &c.

SEC. 13. *And be it enacted*, That if, from any cause whatever, those persons qualified to vote in any parish should suffer Easter Monday to elapse without any election of vestrymen, then the said election may be held on any other day appointed for the purpose, at any time after, although it may be in any subsequent year, of which day notice shall be given by the rector (if any) in his church, immediately after divine service, on two succeeding Sundays, and if no rector, by any two vestrymen, or of those persons who last possessed the powers of vestrymen, by writing set up at the door of the church ten days before the day of meeting.

Churchwardens may be chosen, &c.

SEC. 14. *And be it enacted*, If churchwardens should not from any cause be chosen by the vestry on the day of the election of vestrymen, it shall and may be lawful to choose them at any subsequent meeting of the vestry, and such elections shall be held valid and obligatory.

Vestry may choose ministers, &c.

SEC. 15. *And be it enacted*, That the vestry of every parish shall have full power and authority, from time to time, to choose one or more ministers or readers of the Protestant Epis-